

Address Confidentiality Program



Jason Kander • Secretary Of State

PARTICIPANT NEWSLETTER

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Registering Your Child for School

Registering for school can be an exciting time for you or your children. As you prepare for school, remember to utilize your *Safe at Home* substitute address when completing enrollment documents. Public schools are required to accept your *Safe at Home* substitute address in place of your confidential address. If a school representative asks you to verify your home address:



- explain that you are a participant in an address confidentiality program administered through the secretary of state's office;
- show your authorization card;
- ask the employee to contact the *Safe at Home* program for residency verification information; and
- refrain from disclosing your confidential address. If you voluntarily provide your home address to the school, it might not remain confidential.

New Voting Options for Participants

If you are registered to vote through the *Safe at Home* program, you have a new option for casting your ballot. Earlier this year, Secretary Kander proposed legislation allowing *Safe at Home* participants to vote by absentee ballot if they fear that going to a public polling place on Election Day poses a security risk for them. On June 25, 2015, this new measure was signed into law.

If you would like to vote absentee under this provision you may:

- visit your local election authority and vote in the office during the six weeks prior to Election Day; or
- call your local election authority to request an application to vote absentee by mail. Allow plenty of time for voting by mail as there are specific deadlines for every election and ballots must be notarized.

Participants who are already registered to vote through our program will find additional instructions enclosed with this newsletter. If you are not currently registered to vote through *Safe at Home*, but you are interested in doing so, please contact us for more information. You may also contact *Safe at Home* if you recently relocated and are unsure if your voter registration information is up to date and correct.

Upcoming Holidays

The *Safe at Home* office will be closed and participant mail will not be forwarded on the following state holidays:

- Labor Day
(September 7)
- Columbus Day
(October 12)
- Veterans Day
(November 11)



Safety Planning and the Department of Corrections

While an abuser is in an institution at the Department of Corrections, it is a perfect time to prepare a safety plan for when the offender is eventually released.

- The first step is to stay informed of the status of the offender while in a Department of Corrections institution. The Office of Victim Services at the Department of Corrections can register victims so that they will be informed of changes in the offender's status such as parole hearings and release dates.
- Call Victim Services at (573) 526-6516 to register for automated telephone, e-mail and/or letter notification. Even if you are not the victim of the charges which the offender is incarcerated for, you may still register for release information if you feel threatened by the offender.
- **Please note** that if you registered for notification concerning the trial and sentencing, you must re-register with Corrections to continue receiving notification during incarceration.

If you need additional help, please feel free to call *Safe at Home* at (866) 509-1409 and we will be happy to refer you to safety planning experts who live near you.

Your *Safe at Home* Authorization Number Assists with Mail Forwarding

Be sure to ask that your *Safe at Home* authorization number be included on mail addressed to you. Because mail for all participants comes to the same post office box, the authorization code is an important identifier that will help to expedite the mail forwarding process. If we receive mail for you under a different name than we have on file, we will know to contact you if your authorization number is on the address. Otherwise, we will have no choice but to return the mail to the sender.

Your Authorization Number.
(you will find how your address should look on the back of your blue card)

Jane Doe
123456
P.O. Box 1409
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Q: Can I protect my confidential address when I purchase real estate?

A: After the purchase of a home, county agencies receive notification of a new owner. This information is recorded and is open to the public. Keep this in mind when purchasing property. Contact *Safe at Home* about your intention to purchase property early the process and we can inform you about options to limit the information being publicly recorded.

Up-to-Date Telephone Number

Please make sure *Safe at Home* has your current telephone number. Many problems with the mail can be solved with a quick phone call if we have your current telephone number.

Safe at Home

www.MoSafeAtHome.com

P.O. Box 1409
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Phone: (866) 509-1409

Fax: (573) 522-1525

Email: SafeAtHome@sos.mo.gov